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manent record and a means of quick reference.

Survey of Emergency Lighting Equipment.—The average American is better equipped to cope with a lighting emergency in his home than during a nighttime automobile mishap, according to the first major survey on the nation's emergency lighting equipment. In reporting results of the survey, Rodman St. Clair, general manager of the Electrical Division of Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation, pointed out that 49.4 per cent of the motoring public carried no electrical emergency lighting equipment in their automobiles. The survey was made in Kansas City, Mo., which was chosen as typical of American urban areas.

Mr. St. Clair reported the survey also found that only 58.7 per cent of the population were confident their flashlights would light. The lack of concern in whether a flashlight might give light during an automobile or home emergency was shown by the fact that 53.4 per cent of those queried hadn't tested their flashlights in a month.

"The study makes it particularly clear that the average motorist is poorly prepared for an emergency," Mr. St. Clair stated. "The kind of accident that occurs because a driver can't see the car owner changing his tire until it is too late is generally the serious type of accident.

"Moreover," he said, "there is the matter of convenience. Flat tires are common enough so that virtually everyone is familiar with such a mishap. Changing a tire on a dark road in the dead of night makes a chore out of what should be a relatively simple task."

He added that the ideal emergency light for an automobile is a flashlight, or lantern, capable of projecting a beam at least 700 feet. If a flashlight is used, it should fit into a glove compartment. If a lantern is used, it should be attached to the cowl under the dashboard. A driver, stalled on a dark road, should not step out of his car without a hand light.

It also is the better part of common sense to keep two extra batteries—or the number required for your emergency light—in the glove compartment of a car. If the emergency light should fail because of worn out batteries, new batteries can be inserted. A battery, not in use, can be stored for 12 months without loss of energy.

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development and testing by Burroughs Corporation of Detroit. Burroughs and a subsidiary, The Todd Company of Rochester, N. Y., exhibited three units designed for automatic check handling—an imprinter, a coder and a sorter—in their exhibits at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. Development of these machines was disclosed several months ago in a joint announcement made by Burroughs, Todd and Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation of Cleveland.

The Sensitronic combines electromechanical and electronic principles to perform several posting operations without assistance from the operator, thereby eliminating the possibility of human error in those particular operations.

A magnetic code stripe on the back of the form is utilized to give instructions to the machine. When the operator drops the form into the carriage, the machine adjusts the sheet so that there is proper vertical and horizontal alignment with the last previously printed item. This assures neater, easier to read statements than have been possible before.

At the same time, the machine acts on instructions from the stripe to print the old balance. When entries are made by the operator, those items also are printed on the sheet. The machine automatically computes and prints the new balance and also records it magnetically on the stripe for future posting. After the operation is completed, the machine automatically ejects the form.

As an added guard against error, the account number also can be coded on the stripe. At the time the posting is to be made, the operator can index into the machine the last few digits of the account number. The machine will compare this number with the account number on the stripe. If the numbers match, the Sensitronic will carry out the posting operations. If the numbers do not match, the machine locks automatically, thus preventing error in posting to the wrong account.

Another device, employing electronic principles, the "Bank-o-Matic," also was announced at the ABA show. The "Bank-o-Matic" presents a new principle of commercial bookkeeping, utilizing a punched paper tape as input of account numbers, activity and balances. Operating with checks and deposits coded with invisible signals, account activity and balances are updated on output tape, a complete daily transcript of all accounts is prepared and an automatic trial balance obtained. In addition, the "Bank-o-Matic" prepares all statements automatically on cycle dates or at month-end.

It is expected that these two machines, at two different levels of automation for banking operations, will provide bankers an opportunity to select the best machines for their needs. Within the next few months, field tests will be started on these devices in an eastern bank.

Capt. Cook's Cloaks Get a Cleaning.—Priceless cloaks made from the tiny feathers of extinct Hawaiian birds, which were presented to Captain Cook before his death in Hawaii, recently got their first cleaning in 176 years. One of the cloaks is said to have taken a century to make, so the cleaning process was necessarily a delicate operation. As a cleaning compound, experts selected a mixture of oil-based synthetic detergents and plain water. The gentle-acting suds brought out the original brilliant reds and yellows of the cloaks.

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